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# DN EXTRA

October 2006

## Driving ambition

Scotland's  
teen golf star

## Access hits city's buffers

Rail bosses warn  
of ten-year delay



## DN EXTRA...

## editorial

**Acting Editor** Sarah Hobson  
**Acting News Editor** John Pring  
 Tel: 020 7619 7326; email: john.tring@scope.org.uk

**Design/Production Editor**  
 Jamie Trounce

**Sub Editor/Web Manager**  
 Rebecca Williams

**Reporter** Elizabeth Choppin  
 Tel: 020 7619 7325; email: elizabeth.choppin@scope.org.uk

**Acting Editorial Assistant**  
 Ivy Broadhead

## advertising

**Acting Advertising Manager**  
 Patrick Durham-Matthews  
 Tel: 020 7619 7336; email: patrick.durhammatthews@scope.org.uk

**Sales Administrative Assistant** Suzan Hillman  
 Tel: 020 7619 7120  
 Fax: 020 7619 7331

## marketing

**Marketing Manager**  
 Fiona Mitchell  
 Tel: 18002 020 7619 7317  
 email: fiona.mitchell@scope.org.uk

## address

Disability Now, 6 Market Road  
 London N7 9PW  
 Editorial: 020 7619 7323  
 Fax: 020 7619 7331  
 Minicom: 020 7619 7332  
 email: editor@disabilitynow.org.uk

## subscriptions

FREEPOST RLZU-YJSG-ACB,  
 Disability Now, 800 Guillat  
 Avenue, Kent Science Park,  
 Sittingbourne ME9 8GU.  
 Tel: 0845 120 7001  
 email: dnsubs@servicehelpline.co.uk

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## Cash boost for volunteering

The government has pledged £1million to increase volunteering among disabled people and others at risk of social exclusion.

The money, announced by social exclusion minister Hilary Armstrong last month, will go to five organisations, including the disability charities Scope and Mencap.

It will tackle barriers that prevent volunteering among disabled people and those with a long-term illness, people without qualifications and black and minority ethnic groups.

Mrs Armstrong visited Preston to mark the announcement and met members of the Harambee project, which trains people with learning difficulties to become NVQ-accredited volunteers and



finds them placements.

Pictured are: (back, left to right) Harambee manager James Hughes and volunteer Paul Rogerson; (middle, left to right) volunteers Paul Dixon, Stephen Smith and Sandra Yates; and (front, left to right) volunteer Mark Shackleton, Hilary Armstrong, and volunteers Julie Hanlon and David Wood.

Richard Bull, volunteering officer at Scope, said it will train

managers on how to include disabled volunteers, set up a fund to make adjustments to work stations, and produce literature. A steering group will explore the barriers faced by disabled volunteers.

Mr Bull said: "Volunteering is a way of gaining skills that could lead to future employment."

Funding will also go to Timebanks UK, Timebank and Volunteer Reading Help.

## Passenger faces 10-year delay

BY REBECCA WILLIAMS

A disabled student "frustrated" by access problems affecting his daily rail travel to and from college has been told the situation will not improve for ten years.

Business student Naresh Kumar travels by train from Walsall to Birmingham New Street every day to attend classes at Josiah Mason College.

He exits the underground station via The Pallasades shopping centre where there are only stairs and an escalator.

Mr Kumar, who has cerebral palsy and uses crutches, cannot use the escalator without assistance, forcing him to climb the stairs.

He said: "I feel like I'm going to fall over and I don't feel safe. I have to carry books, which makes it even more difficult. It is frustrating."

Network Rail told Mr Kumar the station would not be accessible for ten years.

A Disability Rights Commission spokesman said: "Access should have been improved by October 2004 (under the Disability Discrimination Act).

"It should not be a problem to make the station accessible. Other mainline stations have managed it. Why has Network Rail not risen to the challenge?"

A Network Rail spokesman admitted it was not an "ideal situation" and blamed a lack of funding.

He said: "It may take ten years to make the station accessible for all of our passengers, but it is a priority."

He said Mr Kumar could ring ahead every day and organise assistance from his train operator.

## Adult courses squeezed out by cash pressure

A "narrow focus" within post-16 education for disabled adults is squeezing out quality courses, experts have warned.

Key education campaigners told a conference last month that courses for disabled adults, especially those with learning difficulties, face the axe because of funding pressure.

Peter Lavender, director of research and development for the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE), told the NIACE conference: "Funding policies endlessly favour the young rather than older people, accredited courses... and treat learning opportunities that do not meet an education target as a kind of 'leisure' arrangement."

Viv Berkeley, NIACE development officer, said better staff training was "urgently needed".

On the cover: Eight-year-old Gurpreet Kaur enjoys the first session of Leicester Actionnaires, a new weekly sports club run by Action for Blind People for blind and partially-sighted children from eight to 16 in Leicestershire. For more information, contact John Ellery, tel: 07739 819 953 or email [john.ellery@actionforblindpeople.org.uk](mailto:john.ellery@actionforblindpeople.org.uk)

# Probe over police arrest

BY JULIE GRIFFITHS

The independent police complaints body has launched an investigation into the arrest and detention of a Birmingham wheelchair user.

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) said the complaint by Jonathan Lea, who is tetraplegic, was one they "must take seriously".

Mr Lea claims he was in his parked car in the Winson Green area of Birmingham on 19 May, when he saw two youths being searched by officers from West Midlands Police.

He believed the police actions were unreasonable and remonstrated with the officers, who arrested him, took him to a police station and detained him.

Mr Lea alleged that the officers ignored his access needs, did not allow him to use his

wheelchair and transported him in a degrading and humiliating manner.

He also alleged that the officers did not secure his car, which led to some of its contents being stolen and the escape of his puppy.

IPCC commissioner John Crawley said his investigation will include an assessment of how West Midlands Police's policies and procedures reflect its commitment to treating disabled people with respect. It will also look at whether or not those guidelines were followed.

Mr Crawley said: "This is a complaint we must take seriously. The claim that officers treated this man in a discriminatory and humiliating manner, disregarding his disability, is a troubling allegation."

West Midlands Police was unable to comment while the investigation was taking place.



Double celebration: Dorothy Scott and her assistance dog Swift, from York, helped Dogs for the Disabled celebrate its 18th birthday last month, and marked the opening of a new training and dog welfare centre (background of picture) at the charity's headquarters in Banbury, Oxfordshire.

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# Paying for access

BY IVY BROADHEAD

Cheaper digital set-top boxes and digital TV recorders (DTVs) are likely to be more inaccessible than more expensive versions, according to a new report.

The report\* by the Research Institute for Consumer Affairs (Ricability) considers the accessibility of 23 digital television products for older and disabled consumers.

It says that cheaper products are more difficult to use. Ricability director David Yelding told *DN* this was due to problems like "poorly designed remote controls", "cramped keys" and "labels which were hard to read".

And with DTVs, he added, companies "had obviously put more thought into making them easy to use" so they are much

more accessible than digital set-top boxes.

Mr Yelding said costs of accessible products should not be a barrier, because there are schemes available to help disabled and older people buy and install digital equipment.

Costs will also naturally decrease over time "and as we test more and more it will get better".

Ford Ennals, chief executive of Digital UK, which is in charge of the switchover to digital television, said: "Ricability's research highlights the potential for making set top boxes even easier to use."

\* *Set top boxes and digital TV recorders; for a copy (available in alternative formats and free except for postage and packing), tel: 020 7427 2460 or visit [www.ricability-digitaltv.org.uk](http://www.ricability-digitaltv.org.uk)*



Wet and wild: Thirteen-year-old Amy Clements, from Bishop of Hereford Bluecoat School, which took part in the final of the annual Kielder Challenge\* – an outdoor adventure competition for disabled and non-disabled students in Kielder Forest, Northumberland. The winner was Penn Hall School, Wolverhampton.

\* For details, tel: 0115 948 6926 or visit [www.fieldfare.org.uk/kielder-challenge.htm](http://www.fieldfare.org.uk/kielder-challenge.htm)

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# Clearing the way

BY JULIE GRIFFITHS

A new competition aims to find ways to clear streets of the obstacles that make life hazardous for visually impaired people.

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association and the



Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) hope the Streets Ahead competition will address problems such as wheelie bins, bollards and cars parked on pavements.

Streets Ahead will be launched during Guide Dog Week (October 2-8) and coincides with the 75th anniversary of the UK's first guide dogs.

Design students will propose solutions that meet the needs of guide dog owners and other visually impaired people.

These may include suggestions for street layout, textured construction such as tactile paving, and technological innovations such as talking lampposts.

Winning designs will be sent to local and district councils around the country as templates



for pedestrian zones.

Derek Beauchamp, from Birkenhead, a guide dog owner for more than 50 years, said: "Visually impaired people face a whole set of difficulties, such as stray advertising boards

and café tables and chairs out on the pavement.

"When I trained with my first guide dog Simon in 1954 there was nowhere near as much clutter on the pavements as there is today."

## Transport schemes have hidden benefits

Accessible transport is a better deal than it looks and benefits a far larger number of people than previously thought, according to research presented at a European conference.

The research was reported at the European Transport Conference in Strasbourg last month by David Carter and Paul Le Masurier, of MVA Consultancy, a firm which specializes in transportation issues.

MVA examined the effects of the Nottingham Express Transit (NET) tram system and the Lincolnshire InterConnect rural bus scheme.

Using polls and questionnaires, the study looked at how mobility impaired people – including people with

pushchairs and unwieldy bags, as well as disabled people – viewed their benefits.

The research found 96 per cent of wheelchair users questioned reported a higher quality of life as a result of the NET tram system.

It also found that 83 per cent of NET wheelchair users left home more often, with 45 per cent of wheelchair users saying they made more frequent excursions to visit friends and family, and 80 per cent saying they did more shopping.

With the rural bus system, 35 per cent of all disabled residents reported benefits and friends and family were more confident in the ability of their loved ones to get around without assistance.

Supported by: **Disability Rights Commission** **scope** **Early Support** **nasen**

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**Seamless Services** for Disabled Children 2006

**Speakers include:**

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Commissioner, Disability Rights Commission

**Brian Lamb OBE**  
Director of Communications, RNID and Chair of the Special Educational Needs Consortium

**Deborah Absalom**  
Director of Children's and Young People's Services, London Borough of Bexley

**Lorraine Peterson**  
CEO, National Association for Special Educational Needs (NASEN)

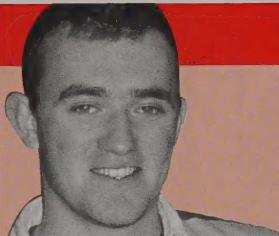
Following the announcement by HM Treasury and the Department of Education and Skills' of their joint review into the provision of services to disabled children and young people, this year's important Ofsted report into the education of children with disabilities and the Education and Skills Select Committee report on SEN released in July, this timely and relevant conference will provide an analysis of these key policy developments and their impact on service users and service providers.

For further information contact Gemma Suter on 0207 324 4363, email [gemma.suter@neilstewartassociates.co.uk](mailto:gemma.suter@neilstewartassociates.co.uk) [www.neilstewartassociates.com/kd146](http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/kd146)

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## DN HACKED OFF

### JOHN STANTON



Six weeks into my first job, my binoculars are proving as useful as my shorthand

The first weeks of a new job are filled with anxiety. There is so much that is unknown and a great deal of uncertainty.

I have now completed six weeks as a sports writer on my local paper and I am thoroughly enjoying it. One of the lingering doubts – and indeed a question I was asked before the job offer was finalised – was how would I cope covering sporting events?

Much of my job is concerned with minor detail, so write that the wrong player delivered a pass and your readers might not forgive you.

I have been going to football matches with my dad for as long as I can remember. I don't recall the moment it happened, but there must have been a time where we both realised I couldn't actually see what was taking place on the pitch. That being a fairly key part of enjoying a spectator sport, if we were to continue going, something had to be done about it.

That something was a pair of binoculars.

When most reporters pack their bag to go to a game, their checklist reads: dictaphone, notebook, pen. Mine includes

binoculars – as vital a tool to my trade as the ability to write shorthand.

hundreds of yards away.

I suspect it's an unusual sight – and people must wonder why I use them.

There are times when I can feel self-conscious using them – sitting in between a herd of football yobs does that to you – but I need them to be able to do my job.

The proof is in the final product. I doubt any reader would ever guess I'm short sighted and use binoculars.

Unless, of course, they notice the extra details in my reports that they missed with the naked eye.

John Stanton writes in *DN Extra* every month as part of our Hacked Off campaign to get more disabled people into journalism and stamp out their misrepresentation in the media.

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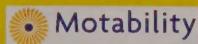
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# Tee spirit

Cameron McDiarmid has been Scotland's top blind golfer for the last three years – and he's still only 18. He tells Rachelle Money why, when it comes to the golf course, ignorance is bliss

**A**s Europe's Ryder Cup team was preparing for its showdown with the United States last month, 18-year-old Cameron McDiarmid was battling fellow golfers from across the globe in one of the year's most prestigious blind golf tournaments.

Cameron, who has been playing golf since he was eight, has won the Scottish Blind Golf Society's Scottish Order of Merit for the past three years, even though he is the society's youngest member.

And last month he defended his World Invitational title at Retho Park Golf Course in Edinburgh, against 40 golfers from as far afield as Sweden, Australia, Canada, Israel and the USA. He wasn't daunted, though.

"I didn't feel intimidated," he says. "I'm quite a confident person, so I don't let what other people are doing or what they think effect me."

"This year I came second in the World Invitational and seventh in the British Open. I've not been playing too well lately, so I was pleased with that result."

He has big ambitions for his golfing career, such as winning future Blind Golf World Championships and the British Blind Open, but unlike his idols, such as Ryder Cup stars Colin Montgomerie and Sergio Garcia, Cameron is unable to turn his hobby into a full-time profession.

"Unfortunately, I wouldn't be able to make a living from golf. It's down to the fact that people don't know enough about it for there to be any profits in playing

full-time. I think that maybe in the future, if we focused more on blind golf, I'd eventually be able to do that."

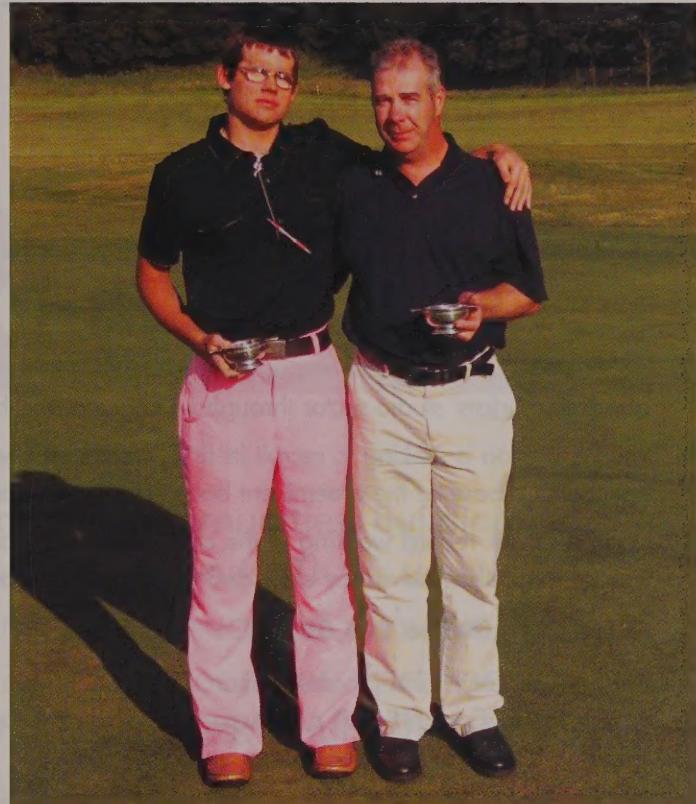
Cameron has no sight in his left eye and minimal sight in his right. His golfing style is unconventional compared to fellow blind golfers, who have their caddies explain every shot in as much detail as possible, such as how many yards there are to the green, and the location of obstacles like trees, bunkers and the rough. Cameron's golfing philosophy seems more along the lines of ignorance is bliss.

He says: "My dad is my caddy so he's the one who lines up the shot for me. I think the less you see of the course the better. If you don't know where the trouble is then you won't dwell on and worry about it. I just hit the ball, go find it, hit the ball again."

His father, a keen golfer, first took his son out onto the golf course when he was eight years old. The early days weren't easy.

"Sometimes when you're younger when you don't get something right you get really frustrated with it and angry. It takes a lot of time and patience and my dad made me stick with it. I kept on playing and when I turned 16 I was entered into my first proper golf competition. It was the World Invitational in 2003. I ended up winning it. I couldn't believe it. I didn't expect it at all. I just got on the course, played my best and that was it, I just did it."

"I've never had anyone give me stick about playing golf because I'm blind. I'd say most people are just interested in how



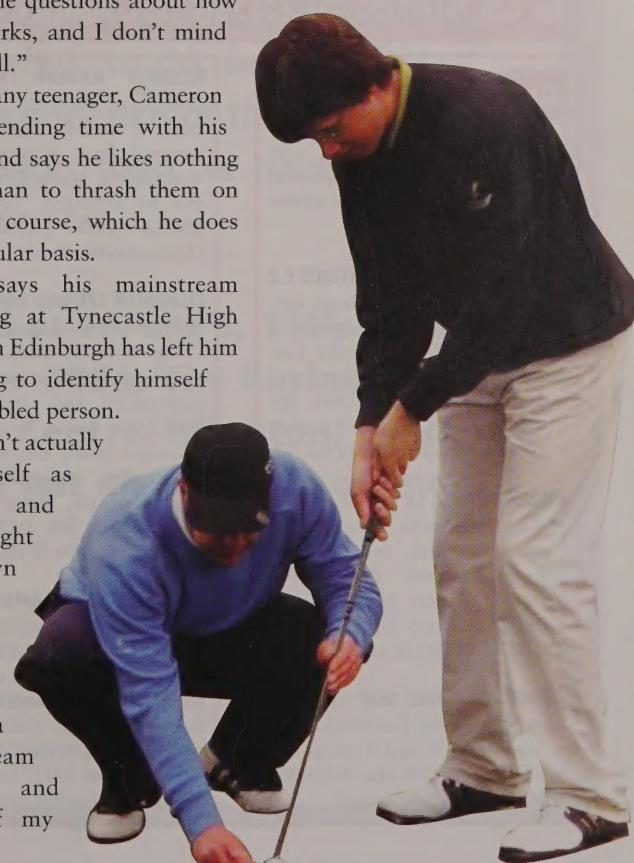
Cameron and his dad, Jim, who guides and caddies for him in tournaments (below)

I do it. People will just look at you and then when you play a good shot they're fascinated (about) how you did it. I get other golfers coming up to me, asking me questions about how it all works, and I don't mind that at all."

Like any teenager, Cameron loves spending time with his mates, and says he likes nothing better than to thrash them on the golf course, which he does on a regular basis.

He says his mainstream schooling at Tynecastle High School in Edinburgh has left him unwilling to identify himself as a disabled person.

"I don't actually see myself as disabled and that might be down to the fact that I did go to a mainstream school and most of my



## National Federation of Artists' Studio Providers

# Director



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The National Federation of Artists' Studio Providers (NFASP) is the professional body for organisations providing affordable studios for artists in England.

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Forging communities. Building neighbourhoods. That's what drives us to succeed. Providing 13,000 homes across East London and Essex, means our level of involvement is so much more than a housing association. With a wide range of roles available, from care, housing and development, to IT, HR and Finance, we're interested in hearing from all members of the community. If you're enthusiastic about what we do, or have first hand experience of the service we provide, then we have a place for you.

**Visit us at Forum 3, 13th-14th October 2006, The Business Design Centre, Islington, London or find out all about us online.**

[www.east-thames.co.uk](http://www.east-thames.co.uk)

We are an equal opportunities employer.

Havering College (FHE) is a highly regarded and successful further education institution. We are committed to quality and currently provide a wide range of programmes to approximately 10,600 students and 4,550 Full-Time Equivalents (FTE).

## Communication Support Worker

Circa £15,000 p.a. depending on qualifications and experience (pro rata for part-time)

Full and part-time, 40 weeks per year

Ref: CSW/AE

We are looking for enthusiastic and responsible Communication Support Workers to provide support for students who are deaf or hard of hearing, both in class and around the college, to ensure they are given equality of opportunity towards achieving their qualification aim.

You will have experience of providing support to students in an educational environment and will hold an Edexcel CSW qualification. Excellent communication and timekeeping skills are also essential, along with a clean driving license and access to own transport.

You will be an effective team player with a flexible approach and a commitment to undertake additional training.

For an application form, please contact the HR Department on **01708 462854** (24 hours answerphone), quoting the reference number.

Alternatively, email [personnel@havering-college.ac.uk](mailto:personnel@havering-college.ac.uk)

Unfortunately, CVs alone will not be accepted as a formal application for this post.

**Closing date: 13 October 2006.**

[www.havering-college.ac.uk](http://www.havering-college.ac.uk)

The college is working towards equal opportunities and positively welcome applications from suitably experienced individuals irrespective of racial origin, sex or disability.



**CITROEN DISPATCH 1.9 d.** 2003 reg. Lewis Reed Conversion. Only 25,540 miles. One owner. Fsh. Lowered floor. Internet ramp. Electric winch and retractable wheelchair locking.. Inertia reel seat belt. 59 inches headroom. Seats three plus wheelchair. MOT till Sept 2007. Cost £15,000 new. Price £7645. 12 months warranty. HP poss. Tel: 01494 526281 (S Bucks) or 07903 337005. For photos etc e-mail: [jack.lee9@btinternet.com](mailto:jack.lee9@btinternet.com) Trade

**RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 1.2** 16 valve with superb Lewis Reed wheelchair access conversion. Air con, metallic blue, alloy wheels, radio/CD player, remote central locking, e/front windows and e/mirrors, pas, 2 owners from new. Adaptation comprises of lowered floor with lightweight fold up ramp, 4 point wheelchair tie-down system with inertia reels, wheelchair passenger lap and diagonal seat belts as well as additional flip up rear passenger seat. Only 9k miles, 2004 (04), £8,995 ono. Authorised motability dealer. Tel: 01604 417850 (Northampton) or mobile: 07917 166671 or email: [mark.derbyshire@spirit-hyundai.co.uk](mailto:mark.derbyshire@spirit-hyundai.co.uk) Trade

**PEUGEOT 806 2.0** litre, metallic royal blue, R reg, pas, air con, e/windows and e/mirrors, 44k miles, CD player, fsh, 11 months' MOT. With Constables Carchair system including side lift for front passenger. Carries 6 maximum. £5,800 ono. Tel: 01945 860692 (Cambs).

**CHAIRMAN RENAULT KANGOO 1.4**, petrol, first reg 02/11/2001. Red, 3 seats, 5 speed manual, 21k miles, 5 doors, air bag, Gowrings conv, ramp & lwd rear floor, pas, radio/cassette, remote central locking, good condition. Taxed to 31/01/07, MOT to 20/04/07. £5,600 ono. Tel Andrew: 020 8386 2854 or email: [andrew.shanks@ntlworld.com](mailto:andrew.shanks@ntlworld.com)

**VW SHARAN 2.0** 1997 P reg with Brotherwoods conversion, raised roof for extra headroom, manual fold out design ramp - easy to operate, 47k miles, e/windows, pas, air con, CD player. Excellent condition, very well maintained, Only 2 owners from new, full MOT, 6 months' tax. £5,950 ono. Tel: 01737 379200 (Tadworth, Surrey) or email: [tom@burke34.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:tom@burke34.fsnet.co.uk)

Cont'd pg 13



## ENGLISH HERITAGE

English Heritage protects and provides advice on this country's unique legacy of historic buildings, landscapes and archaeological sites.

We also manage over 400 sites and welcome in excess of 11 million visitors to these each year.

## Outreach Officers

(two posts, maternity cover)

The English Heritage Outreach Department engages new audiences with the historic environment. The team works with hard-to-reach communities on creative projects encouraging understanding of England's diverse histories and helping to build strong communities.

For both posts, we are looking for a highly motivated self-starter with a passion for heritage and/or community work. You will have experience in access or outreach work, including community liaison and working with the voluntary sector. You will also have experience of developing public programmes for new audiences and managing mid to large scale projects. An outgoing and creative personality, with the ability to develop a strong network of contacts, are also key attributes for the post. You will be expected to work flexibly which will include some evenings and weekends. Due to the nature of this post, a disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau will be required for the successful candidate.

**West Midlands, based in Birmingham**

**£23,740 per annum pro rata, full-time (10 month fixed-term contract)**

You will be responsible for delivering a project in Birmingham around the Bicentennial of the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in 2007, as well as managing the day-to-day running of various outreach projects already underway, including a natural heritage project with young people with learning disabilities at Witley Court. Additionally, you will develop creative work to engage new audiences in Heritage Open Days, making the event more socially inclusive by attracting new organisers from different ethnic, social and cultural backgrounds, particularly building on the work already done in Birmingham and Wolverhampton. Ref: E/10/06

**Closing date: 16 October 2006. Interview date: 25 October 2006.**

Start date: 11 December 2006.

**East Midlands, based in Northampton or home-based**

**£23,740 per annum pro rata, two days per week**

**(one year fixed-term contract)**

You will be involved in developing creative work which engages new and diverse audiences in local heritage, through Heritage Open Days. You will work on making the scheme more socially inclusive by taking it into new areas and encouraging new organisers from different ethnic, social and cultural backgrounds to take part, particularly focusing on Leicester and Nottingham, including delivering two targeted community projects in Nottingham. You will support current organisers to improve their events through building networks and capacity building. Travel around the region is required and working from home is possible. Ref: D/12/06

**Closing date: 10 November 2006. Interview date: 13 December 2006.**

Start date: 15 January 2007.

To request an application pack for either post, please email [recruitsw@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:recruitsw@english-heritage.org.uk) or write to Anne Hewitt, English Heritage, 29 Queen Square, Bristol BS1 4ND quoting the appropriate reference. MINICOM, FOR TEXT PHONES ONLY, **0800 0150516**

English Heritage values diversity and aims to employ people who reflect this.

# We're investing in London Underground.

## Let us invest in you.

### Head of Stakeholder Communications

#### £xcellent + benefits

London Underground is undergoing a period of unprecedented investment. So we need a proven communications professional like you to build trust and support with the public and stakeholders during this time of change – enabling everyone to see past the short-term costs to the long-term benefits.

Enjoying a very high profile role, you will manage relationships with key stakeholders in local and national Government, as well as the business community and numerous local organisations that depend upon the Tube. At the same time, you will provide briefings and speeches to London Underground's Managing Director and Board, whilst drafting responses to the Mayor's monthly questions and dealing with enquiries from other stakeholders. This will involve everything from face-to-face briefings to group presentations, management advice sessions and literature development, as well as the development of a detailed stakeholder communication strategy. What's more, you'll be leading a team of ten, so it's vital you bring a strong track record in communications and consultation on major projects, demonstrable management ability and the confidence to influence senior decision makers.

Educated to degree or postgraduate level, ideally with a bias towards politics or communications, you will combine knowledge of public transportation and of the London travel market, with in-depth and direct experience of processes in local and central Government.

To apply for this vacancy please visit

[https://careers.tfl.gov.uk/fe/tpl\\_tfl01ssl.asp?newms=jj&id=30578](https://careers.tfl.gov.uk/fe/tpl_tfl01ssl.asp?newms=jj&id=30578)

or please call **0800 0155 072** and speak to a member of our Recruitment Team.

Please quote Ref: TfL2705.

**Closing date: 13th October 2006.**

We want to be as diverse as the city we represent and welcome applications from everyone, regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith, age or disability.

**Transport for London**





# employment service

**Are you disabled?**

**Are you claiming incapacity benefit or job seeker allowance?**

**Do you want to secure a permanent job with a minimum 16 hours per week?**

If you have said yes to the three questions above then we can probably help you.

**Scope's Employment Service** is part of **SCOPE**, the national charity. As a provider of WORKSTEP, a government sponsored programme designed to assist disabled people in entering the workplace we can provide you with support in finding a suitable job; furthermore, that support will continue, should you require it, when you are employed. At no cost to you at any stage.

The employers we work with represent large corporations, public sector organisations and local businesses. There are currently a number of vacancies nationwide for a range of different jobs, in a number of different industries, for example:

- Customer advisors in DIY retail
- HO and store vacancies with a national charity
- Administrative posts in central government
- Retail jobs in a large supermarket chain
- Call centre jobs in financial services and telecommunications

Given the span of vacancies the employers we work with have, we are looking for a range of experiences and skills in the people registering on our job seeker database.

Interested? Please send your CV. You can:

- **Email:** [employment.support@scope.org.uk](mailto:employment.support@scope.org.uk)
- **Write:** Scope's Employment Service, Suite 1A, Kings Hall, St Ives Business Park, Parsons Green, St Ives PE27 4WY
- **Call:** Kirsty Barton on 01480 309619

Once we have received your CV we will contact you if we need to check any information. We will then enter your details on our database, regularly check for suitable positions. Once we have identified a potential job, one of our Employment Officers will help you prepare for the interview, and provide you with the advice and support you may need.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**For disabled people achieving equality**

## Public Transport Users' Committee for Scotland

### Appointment of Convener

The Public Transport Users' Committee for Scotland is a new advisory public body that will come into being on 01 January 2007. It will be responsible for representing effectively the interests of public transport users and consider and make recommendations to Scottish Ministers relating to public transport services in, from and to Scotland.

**Remuneration** – The Convener will receive an allowance which will be set at £150 per day, to cover attending meetings and preparation time. All receipted, directly related travel and subsistence costs, as well as reasonable childcare or other carer expenses, will be reimbursed as will reasonable additional expenses for people with disabilities. This appointment will be for 3 years, commencing on 01 February 2007 and ending on 31 January 2010, with the possibility of re-appointment. During the first 3 months of appointment the time commitment for the role is likely to be 3-4 days per month in total, falling to 1-2 days per month thereafter.

#### The role involves:

- representing users of public transport in Scotland;
- engaging with users and operators of public transport;
- giving advice and making recommendations to Scottish Ministers; and
- inputting into the development of national and regional transport strategies.

#### The successful candidate will be able to:

- define a clear vision of how to fulfil a body's functions and achieve its aims;
- work harmoniously and effectively with key stakeholders;
- analyse and evaluate complex issues and reach sound conclusions; and
- will have a thorough knowledge of day-to-day issues that affect transport users.

For an application pack please see the contact details below. Application packs are available in alternative formats, on request. You should provide your name, address and the vacancy that you are interested in.

Public Appointments, PO Box 7332, Glasgow G51 2ZA. Telephone: 0870 240 1818. Fax: 0870 600 4111. SMS text message: 0796 013 3181. E-mail: [publicappointments@response-handling.com](mailto:publicappointments@response-handling.com)

Closing date for applications is Tuesday 31 October 2006.

Within the next few months we will be seeking applications to fill the 11 membership posts on the PTUC. If you would like to be notified when these opportunities arise please contact Bill Brash at the Scottish Executive on 0131 244 0263 or by E-mail at [bill.brash@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:bill.brash@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Appointments to the Public Transport Users' Committee for Scotland are regulated by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland. All applicants must complete and submit the application form contained in the application pack in order to be considered for appointment. Please note that application forms sent electronically will be in Word format and, if returning electronically, will only be accepted in that format.

The Scottish Executive is committed to equality of opportunity and encouraging a diverse range of applicants for public appointments, reflecting the best of contemporary Scotland and to the principle of public appointments on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process. For more information about public appointments and other vacancies visit the Scottish Executive's website at [www.scotland.gov.uk/government/publicbodies](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/government/publicbodies)



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

making it work together



## Make your next role as important as ours.

DFID, the Department for International Development: leading the British government's fight against world poverty.

We offer opportunities in our headquarters in London and East Kilbride – but also in many developing countries, with staff based in DFID offices plus British Embassies and High Commissions around the world. We have roles for leaders; professionals; specialists; managers; graduates and administrators.

DFID is an equal opportunities employer and selection is on merit. Applications are welcomed from all parts of the community and we actively encourage interest from women, ethnic minority groups and those with a disability. We will make any reasonable adjustments should they be required. Candidates should be UK Nationals, nationals of a member state of the European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth citizens with the right to work in the UK.

You can find out more about us, and our work, on our website [www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk). You'll also find information about specific vacancies, opportunities, and an electronic application on the site.



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Department for  
International  
Development

[www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk)

**FIAT DOBLO 1.9 JTD (Turbo Diesel)** Nov.2004 Reg. Hi-roof. 20,900 miles. One owner. 'Dynamic' model with Air Conditioning, E/windows and pas. E/winch, 4-point wheelchair locking, inertia reel seat belt, lightweight 'Portaramp', 59 inches headroom. Fsh. Seats three plus wheelchair. £7,695 includes cost of next major service and manufacturer's warranty till Nov 2007. HP poss. Tel.01494 526281 or 07903 337005. For photos etc email: [jack.lee9@btinternet.com](mailto:jack.lee9@btinternet.com) Trade

**SILVER MERCEDES V220**, 4 years old, 13k miles. Automatic, fitted with Carrospeed control. 2 Balder clamping spigots, air con, alloy wheels, e/mirrors and e/windows, cruise control, all round tinted windows, CD player. Seats 3 passengers in back. Wheelchair access through remote control Ricon side ramp. £18,500. Tel: 01844 351118 (Oxon) or email: [richardallen40@btconnect.com](mailto:richardallen40@btconnect.com)

**CHAIRMAN FORD ESCORT** 1.4, J reg, carries 5 including a wheelchair. With Gowrings conversion incl lowering suspension and manual ramp. In very good condition, only 2 owners from new and 62k miles. MOT 'til April '07, £850 ono. Tel: 01454 775450 (Bristol area).

**03/52 CITROEN BERLINGO** Multispace 1.9 forte diesel, 3 seats, Lewis Reed conversion, Lowered floor and rear ramp 31,000 miles. £9750. Home demonstration can be arranged. Tel: Anthony Motors LTD 01970 624444 (Aberystwyth). Trade

**CHAIRMAN CITROEN BERLINGO** 1.8, S reg, air con, pas, e/windows, dark green, remote central locking. With Gowrings wheelchair conversion incl electric wheelchair lift at rear with inertia belts. Carries 5 including wheelchair with 2 rear seats. Only 35k miles and 2 owners from new, fsh, full MOT. £4,600 ono. Tel: 01427 718304 (Lincs) or [john@littleborough70.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:john@littleborough70.wanadoo.co.uk)

Cont'd pg 14

### Hartgrove Farm

Shaftsbury Dorset

Award winning holiday cottages on working farm. A really lovely holiday for disabled guests and their families. Glorious countryside and views. Logfires. C.H. Wheel-in shower. Mobile Hoist and other equipment.

Tel: 01747 811830

[www.hartgrovefarm.co.uk](http://www.hartgrovefarm.co.uk)

### Normandy France

Magnificent accessible farm house in beautiful 1 acre garden. Sleeps 14 (6 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms) huge G.F. ensuite bedroom, Wheel-in shower, bath, mobile hoist. Superb heated swimming pool, 25 mins unspoilt sandy beaches. Only 1 hr from port.

Tel: 01747 812019

[www.normandyfarmhouses.co.uk](http://www.normandyfarmhouses.co.uk)

**WARNING – We have been warned about a scam involving people from overseas who say they want to buy a product and who offer to pay using cheques, Western Union money transfers and certified cheques. Although no DN readers to our knowledge have been hit by this, please be particularly wary of accepting cheques from overseas.**

**For more information, visit the Metropolitan Police website.**

*Creating opportunities with disabled people*



## Service User Support

### Regional Facilitator

Salary: £13,580 for 21 hrs/wk

Rising to £14,600 after probation  
(this figure is inclusive of Roseland Boundary)

A disabled person is required to work in the London & Kent region, to provide meeting opportunities to groups of disabled people who use Leonard Cheshire residential and community services and support their involvement through the Service User Association. Service users are involved in planning, delivery & evaluation of their services in many ways. A commitment to the Social Model of Disability and experience of facilitating groups is essential. The vacancy forms part of an existing team of disabled workers who support service users empower themselves by meeting together, mentoring and training. Working from home, there is also the need for extensive travel in the region with occasional overnight stays for national staff meetings.

#### Application pack from:

The Administrator, Leonard Cheshire SUS,  
St George's, Semington, Trowbridge,  
Wiltshire BA14 6JQ  
Tel: 01380 870777  
Fax: 01380 871337  
Email: [Kathy.iles@lc-uk.org](mailto:Kathy.iles@lc-uk.org)  
(different formats available on request)

**The closing date is 27th October 2006** for receipt of all applications to above address. Interviews will be held in the region on 15th November 06.

Registered Charity No. 218186



**DEADLINE – Disability Now November 2006 published 28 October.**  
**Classified deadlines: Booking: 13 October. Copy: 17 October.**



Leading learning and skills

We are giving the nation the skills it needs to compete. That includes you.

Put simply, it's our job to help people learn new skills so that businesses in England can compete with the world's best.

From the outset, it's been one of our central aims to create a learning society, free from discrimination and prejudice – one that will help all learners to reach their full potential, regardless of race, gender or disability. In all, we've invested some £1 billion a year in supporting projects that break down barriers to learning across the country.

If you'd like to be involved in an organisation that believes skills and learning are powerful tools in creating a better society and healthier economy, find out more and see our current vacancies at [www.recruitment.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.recruitment.lsc.gov.uk)

Improvement through diversity and equality



**MERCEDES VITO 2.2 115CDI**, registered Feb 04, auto, air con, alloy wheels, e/mirrors and e/windows, cruise control, heated driver and front passenger seat, all round tinted windows, CD player, 6-way driver seat, black metallic paint. Wheelchair access through remote control side ramp, 3 rear seats. Manufacturer's warranty expires Feb 2007, only 19k miles and one owner from new. £19,000 ono. Tel: 01463 772711 (Inverness) or mobile: 0779 5215433 or email: [Brendan@dowd1234.fsn.net.co.uk](mailto:Brendan@dowd1234.fsn.net.co.uk)

**MERCURY REGATTA SCOOTER** 4 months old not used, maximum weight 25 stone, 8 mph with front/rear lights and indicators. Complete with charger and manual. £1,900 ono. Tel: 01922 613959 (Walsall) or mobile: 07910 818107.

**MERCURY M48 SILVER**, 12 months old, used 6 times, with charger and manual serviced lights and indicators good condition. £1,000 ono. Tel: 01922 613959 (Walsall) or mobile: 07910 818107.

**SHOPRIDER MOBILITY SCOOTER**. 4 Wheels, max speed 8mph. Good condition with battery charger. £650 ono. Purchaser Collects. Tel: 01626 201401 (Newton Abbot, Devon).

**OBI BUGGY AND** cruiser buggy, offers. Tel: 020 8856 3352.

**SHOPRIDER ELECTRIC SCOOTER** – VGC, no charger. £200.00 ono Tel 01978 756128 (Wrexham – North Wales).

#### Wheelchairs/scooters

**INVACARE SPECTRA PLUS** electric wheelchair. Many features, 2 years old. £1,800.00 ono Tel 07815 904374 for details (Chelmsford).

**INVACARE SPECTRA PLUS**, electric, tilt-in-space wheelchair. In excellent condition, very little use. £1,750 ono. Tel: 01332 863310 (Derby area) or email: [lenjay1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lenjay1@yahoo.co.uk)

# DN disabilitynow



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**Don't miss the November issue – The issue will be produced by its first guest editor, Bert Massie, chairman of the Disability Rights Commission. He will ask whether and how disabled people will be supported by the forthcoming single equalities commission.**

**Take an advantage of £5 discount off our annual subscription plus a free *DN* Mug (while stocks last)**



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(you can pay by Direct Debit)

Please return this form to Disability Now Subscriptions, FREEPOST RLZU-YJSG-ACBJ, 800 Guillat Avenue, Kent Science Park, Sittingbourne ME9 8GU.

Name:	Address:	Postcode:	Tel No:
I enclose a cheque/postal order for £ _____ made payable to <i>Disability Now</i>			
I authorise you to charge my Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Switch <input type="checkbox"/>			
Card No: <input type="text"/>			
Iss No: (Switch only) _____ Valid from: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> Expiry date: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>			
Signature: _____		Date: _____	
Tick free gift: <i>DN</i> mug <input type="checkbox"/>			



DNX10/06

# Accessible banking, whatever your needs.

## Ways to bank



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At HSBC we are confident we can offer you an accessible solution to your banking needs. Please visit your local HSBC branch or via [www.hsbc.co.uk](http://www.hsbc.co.uk). Telephone 08457 404 404.

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